

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) Sustained release microgranules containing a *Ginkgo biloba* extract, comprising:

a neutral core coated with a layer, said layer containing *Ginkgo biloba* extract with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient;

an intermediate water-repellent layer, coating said core, comprising ~~at least a polymer or~~ a thermoplastic excipient selected from the group consisting of partially hydrogenated oils, beeswax, carnauba wax, paraffin waxes, silicone waxes, C12-C18 fatty alcohols and fatty acids, solid, semi-synthetic glycerides, glycerol monoesters, diesters or triesters, polyoxyethylene glycols and glycosylated polyoxyethylenated glycerides, monostearate glycerides and mixtures thereof; and

an outer polymeric layer which sustains the release of said extract from the active core;

wherein the release of total flavone glycosides having the following profile of dissolution rates measured at $37.0^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$, with a Dissolution Test Apparatus I (Basket method at 100 rpm, 900 mL of purified water UV Detection: 272 nm):

T (h)	DISSOLUTION (w/w)
0.5 hour	$\leq 45 \%$
2 hours	$< 75 \%$
8 hours	$> 60 \%$

31. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 30, wherein the profile is as follows:

T (h)	Dissolution (w/w)
0.5 hour	5-45 %
2 hours	30-70 %
8 hours	> 60 %

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 30, wherein the neutral core consists of a substance chosen from sugar, starch, mannitol, sorbitol, xylitol, cellulose, talc and mixtures thereof.

34. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 33, wherein the neutral core consists of a starch/sucrose core in 80/20 mass ratios.

35. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 30, wherein the *Ginkgo biloba* extract contains up to 40 % by weight of flavonoids, and up to 10 % by weight of terpenes.

36. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 35, wherein the *Ginkgo biloba* extract preferably contains up to 24 % by weight of flavonoids, and up to 6% by weight of terpenes.

37. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 30, wherein the layer containing the *Ginkgo biloba* extract contains at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, selected from the group comprising a binder, an antistatic agent or a lubricant.

38. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 37, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of cellulosic polymers, acrylic polymers, polyacrylate, povidones, copovidones, polyvinylalcohols, shellac, alginic acid,

sodium alginate, starch, pregelatinized starch, sucrose and its derivatives, guar gum, polyethylene glycol.

39. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 38, wherein the binder is used in proportions of at most about 50 % by weight of *Ginkgo biloba* extract.

40. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 37, wherein the antistatic agent, which can be used as flow aid, is selected from the group consisting of micronised or non micronised talc, fumed silica, colloidal silica, precipitated silica and mixtures thereof.

41. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 40, wherein the antistatic agent is used in proportions of at most 5% by weight relative to the weight of said granules of *Ginkgo biloba*.

42. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 37, wherein the lubricant is selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, stearic acid, sodium stearyl fumarate, micronised polyoxyethyleneglycol, leukine, sodium benzoate and mixtures thereof.

43.-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 44, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulosic polymers, acrylic polymers, polyacrylate, povidones, copovidones, polyvinylalcohols, shellac, alginic acid, sodium alginate, starch, pregelatinized starch, sucrose and its derivatives, guar gum, polyethylene glycol.

46. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 30, wherein the outer polymeric layer contains at least one coating agent selected from the group consisting of cellulosic polymers, acrylic polymers, shellac and mixtures thereof.

47. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 46, wherein the cellulosic polymer is selected among ethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose and/or hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

48. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 46, wherein the acrylic polymer is selected from insoluble acrylate ammonio-methacrylate copolymer, polyacrylate, or methacrylic copolymers, and combinations thereof.

49. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 46, wherein the outer polymeric layer additionally contains a plasticizer, a surfactant, an antistatic agent and/or a lubricant.

50. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 49, wherein the plasticizer is selected in the group consisting of dibutyl sebacate, triacetine, triethylacetate, triethylcitrate, ethylphthalate, or mixtures thereof.

51. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 50, wherein the plasticizer is used in proportions of at most about 30 % by weight of the coating agents.

52. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 49, wherein the antistatic agent is selected from the group comprising micronised or non micronised talc, fumed silica, colloidal silica, precipitated silica and mixtures thereof.

53. (Previously Presented) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 49, wherein the antistatic agent is used in proportions of at most about 10 %, by weight.

54. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 30, comprising the successive steps consisting of:

applying over a neutral core, a layer comprising Ginkgo Biloba extract, and at least one pharmaceutical excipient.

coating said core with an intermediate layer over the thus obtained granules by spraying thereon a suspension, or a solution comprising a polymer or a thermoplastic excipient

coating the thus coated granules with an outer layer by spraying a suspension, a dispersion or a solution of a sustained-release coating composition,

drying the thus obtained coated granules.

55. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 31, comprising the successive steps consisting of:

applying over a neutral core, a layer comprising Ginkgo Biloba extract, and at least one pharmaceutical excipient.

coating said core with an intermediate layer over the thus obtained granules by spraying thereon a suspension, or a solution comprising a polymer or a thermoplastic excipient

coating the thus coated granules with an outer layer by spraying a suspension, a dispersion or a solution of a sustained-release coating composition,

drying the thus obtained coated granules.

56. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 32, comprising the successive steps consisting of:

applying over a neutral core, a layer comprising Ginkgo Biloba extract, and at least one pharmaceutical excipient.

coating said core with an intermediate layer over the thus obtained granules by spraying thereon a suspension, or a solution comprising a polymer or a thermoplastic excipient

coating the thus coated granules with an outer layer by spraying a suspension, a dispersion or a solution of a sustained-release coating composition,

drying the thus obtained coated granules.

57. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 54, wherein the layer is applied over the neutral cores by spraying a coating alcoholic solution containing the Gingko Biloba extracts and the excipient.

58. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 57, wherein the alcoholic or aqueous alcoholic solution contains isopropyl alcohol.

59. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 57, wherein the layer applied over the neutral cores is a 10 % w/w binding solution of shellac dissolved in isopropyl alcohol.

60. (Withdrawn) Process for the preparation of sustained release microgranules according to claim 54, wherein the outer coating layer is a water dispersion of ethylcellulose at 16 % w/w containing 25 % w/w of dibutyl sebacate versus dry polymer.

61. (New) Sustained release microgranules according to claim 53, wherein the thermoplastic excipient comprised in the water-repellent layer is monostearate glyceride.